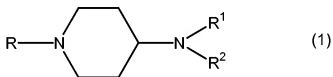


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for promoting angiogenesis, which comprises administering to a person in need ~~thereof~~ of improvement of blood circulation a pharmaceutical composition having, as the active ingredient, at least one compound selected from a group consisting of a piperidine compound represented by the general formula (1) or salts thereof:



wherein R represents a benzoyl group which may have, as substituents on the phenyl ring, 1 to 3 groups selected from a group consisting of an amino group, which may have a lower alkanoyl group, and a lower alkyl group; R<sup>1</sup> represents a hydrogen atom or a lower alkyl group; and R<sup>2</sup> represents a phenyl lower alkyl group.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the piperidine compound is 4-[N-methyl-N-(2-phenylethyl)amino]-1-(3,5-dimethyl-4-propionylaminobenzoyl)piperidine.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the pharmaceutical composition is a therapeutic drug for diseases with insufficient development and regeneration of blood vessels, and various diseases caused by ischemia.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, wherein the diseases with insufficient development and regeneration of blood vessels, and various diseases caused by ischemia are selected from the group consisting of myocardial infarction, angina pectoris, cerebral infarction, and senile dementia.